

Margaret Preston collection

S1080

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February 13, 2015

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
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Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Title	Margaret Preston collection
Date	1863; undated
Extent	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S1080

Preferred Citation

S1080, Margaret Preston Collection, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note

Margaret Preston wrote a book entitled, "Reminiscences of Early Terre Haute," from which the two-page typed article, "The Civil War," was taken. Her brother Willie fought in the Civil War. Her uncle was Charles Wood, who "engaged in railroad service."

Scope and Contents

In this collection, there are three typed items, none of which are dated. The first two items are letters from George A. Graff, Company F., 14th Indiana Volunteers Regiment, written to "Friend William," probably William Preston, brother of Margaret. The first letter, from camp near Elk Run, Virginia, states: "you speak about the battle of Gettysburg as being of more importance to us than Antietam. I do not think it was for the reason that we did not attack them and drive them, but as to attacking them, we did the first day and they whipped us bad, but that night our men fell back to a better position so the next day the rebels attacked us on our ground and were repulsed every time, but if we had attacked them on their ground, they would have whipped us for sure."

The second letter from George Graff to William was written from camp south of "Raperhannock river," Virginia. He tells about visiting New York, and wished he could stay longer to "have seen my fun out." Perhaps he was involved in putting down the New York City draft riots in July 1863. He tells about their retreat from Robertson Run to Centerville, starting in October 1863. He wrote: "one time the Capt of our battery made a tolerable good shot which made the trees fall and he hollered take that over there."

The third item is a two-page article entitled "The Civil War," which Margaret Preston took from her book, "Reminiscences of Early Terre Haute." She tells about her brother Willie, her father, and her uncle Charles Wood. Willie was wounded but recovered at home. Two other men in Company E, 71st Regiment, were John Ball and George Graff. She wrote that George Graff "fought at Gettysburg, but the hardships of the war were too great; he lost his mind and I think died in an insane asylum." John Blinn, age 23, died at Gettysburg.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged chronologically.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from Florence Crawford on 1934/12/19.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing and finding aid completed 2015/01/22 by Nikki Stoddard Schofield.

Controlled Access Headings

Personal Name(s)

- Graff, George A.
- Preston, Margaret

Subject(s)

- Correspondence
- United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Personal narratives
- United States. Army. Indiana Infantry Regiment, 14th (1861-1864)